

RECEIVED

MAR 02 2004



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Upasani *et al.*

Appl. No.: 09/321,882

Filed: May 28, 1999

For: **Neuroactive Steroids of the
Androstane and Pregnane Series**

Confirmation No.: 7179

Art Unit: 1616

Examiner: Badio, Barbara P.

Atty. Docket: 1483.0130002

Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(1)

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Mail Stop AF

Sir:

It is hereby requested that the period for replying to the outstanding Office Action be extended two months from December 25, 2003 to February 25, 2004 by the filing of this Petition and fee payment.

The petition fee (37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)) is believed to be \$420.00 for a two month extension for a large entity. Fee payment is provided in our enclosed Credit Card Payment Form (PTO-2038). However, if extensions of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 other than those provided herewith are required to prevent abandonment of the present patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

02/27/2004 JADD01 00000075 09321882

01 FC:1252

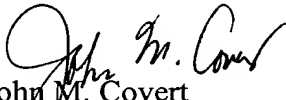
420.00 DP

Upasani *et al.*
Appl. No. 09/321,882

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.


John M. Covert
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 38,759

Date: February 25, 2004

1100 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934
(202) 371-2600

234448_1.DOC